WWW.KYKERNEL.COM WEDNESDAY

page 3

REMEMBERING A TRAGEDY



STUDENTS HOLD VIGIL

Candlelight ceremony at UK honors Virginia Tech shooting victims

By Blair Homas

Candlelight illuminated the Memorial Hall Amphitheater last night as some students bowed the distribution of the control of t



Elizabeth Sikorski, a merchandising, textiles and apparel junior, holds a candle last night in memory of the 33 people who died.

what we could do to help, they told us they wanted us to pray." Friederichsen said.

Brigid McKierman, a nursing senior from Louisville, prayed for her best friend Mallory Soldner, also from Louisville, who is an industrial engineering senior and a member of the women's soccer team at Virginia Tech.

"She is really shaken up, so am I," McKiernan said. "I can't explain how hard it was to call my best friend to find out if she was alive."

Soldner's morning class in Norris Hall,

VP candidate wants equal attention in all fields

By Katie Saltz

Shakespeare is just as important as science, said threodroe Widanski, the fourth and final candidate for the vice president for research position to visit campus in the past few week; unread to the past few week; under takes a course on Shakespeare and understands this sid. "You can't measure when a student takes a course on Shakespeare and understands things and thinks things they never thought before, and that is important too."

Widanski is a chemistry professor at Indiana Chiversity, 4x a forum yesterday he addressed an audience and answered questions about his vision for helping Uks achieve its top-20 goal.

It is important to focus on all disciplines, Widanskis and social sciences are all important to the success of an enterprise; "Widanski sad." The creative activities of scientists, artists, lumanists and social sciences are all important to the success of an enterprise; "Widanski sad." An augu amount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes a lot further than august anount in science goes and further than august anount in science goes and

Panelists: Community needs awareness to understand affirmative action

By Emily Coovert

More awareness and knowledge about racial discrimination are needed to understand the reasons why affirmative action is necessary, said several parelists at last night's Diversity Dialogue.

The dialogue was titled "Picking up the Pieces of Affirmative Action: What's Your Misconception?"

"In light of all the national cases brought up in neighboring states, this is a hot issue and really relevant for students at this university," said Mahjabeen Rafiuddin, director of Student Diversity Engagement.

The panel consisted of five members of the local community, including a UK professor and three UK students. The group was divided between those in favor of and those against affirmative action.

Those supporting affirmative action agreed that it is intended to acknowledge that inequality has occurred both historically and presently and is really a non-issue due to its critical place within society."

"As long as we are divided among ourselves about these non-issues, as long as we flame ourselves, we are divided and we can never take back power and achieve social work.

The college of Social Work.

The college of Social Work which is wan't necessary, because that would mean all men are equal — but they're not," said Anita Thompson, English senior and recipient of the William C. Parker scholarship, a scholarship only awarded to minorities.

Those against affirmative action, however, emphasized how scholarships.

See Diversity on page 4

Quadriplegic graduate student, avid sports fan dies at age 27

Michael Brent, a UK gradupte student, avid sports fan and former athlete who developed quadriplegia after a car accident in high school, died at 6 a.m. yesterday from stomach Originally from Campbellsburg, Ky., Brent began studying at UK in 2000, and the people who knew him all remember the same thing — his positive outlook on life.

Brent, a former Kernel and recent Cats' Pause reporter, inspired a foundation in his name to raise money for spinal cord research. He received a degree in journalism from UK in 2004 and was going to graduate from UK's communication graduate program in May.

After presenting Brent with UK's Adelstein Award

Todos chief of staff, said he was in awe of Brent's increation attitude.

"To my amazement he said his horrific accident may have been the best thing to happen to him because it made him a better person and a better student," Boyd said, "I think he was an inspiration to virtually anyone he came in contact with."

At Henry County High School, Brent played baskeball, baseball and golf until a car accident in 1997. According to a story that ran in 2000 in Paws Print, the Henry County High School newspaper, Brent fell askep while driving home from a round of golf. The car flipped and Brent broke his neck, leaving

but his involvement in the sports scene took a new turn.

Brent wrote sports stories for the Kernel in 2004 and started reporting for The Cats' Pause in February and started reporting for The Cats' Pause in February and Started reporting for the Cats' Pause is evident on the publication's Web site message board, where as of last night, more than 80 people left posts on a thread devived to his He also was a frequent commentator on the Joe B. and Denny Show, a local sports radio show, his friends said.

"He was a hardcore sports fan," said Matt Bard, an engineering freshman who got to know Bent in New North Hall, where they both lived this year. "He was such a happy guy in a

See Brent on page 4

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The tent is down....



e most challenging. ies (March 21 – April 19) Today

s getting easier. ini (May 21 June 21) Today is

Let the Patio Party Begin

Virgo (Aug. 23 Sept. 22) Today is a

an 8 — You're working now for your future, if you're really smart, anyway. Stash away enough to live in luxury, later. Don't think you can't,

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Today is



SCARLETT AND JESSICA SWAP BOYS

Pals Johansson and Biel share the love – by hooking up with the other's former flings

body else the next. It's me or Jessica Biel."

Jessica Biel and Justin Timberlake Biel and Justin Timberlake held hands as they arrived at a friend's birthday party in Malibu, California, on April 6. Things got at admore PG-13 from there. "If Jessica was talkine, to a group of girls."

Getting Serious

April 6. Things got a usu more production of the production of the production was talking to a group of girls, lustin would come over, kiss her neck and start making out with her," says one attender. Later, as they danced in the middle of a crowded room, the PDA continued. "Jessica played horseshoes together hone on April 5. ("The PDA continued." Jessica played horseshoes together and Justin was smiling, too. You couldn't help but look at them!" adds the reveler.

So begins another chapter of Biel and Timberlake's up-and-down -relationship. Quick back," says a pal, (His rep-does not comment on his per-sonal life.) For Biel, it's about-time she and Timberlake start-ed heating up again. "She is majorly hung up on JT.," says a source. "She hopes some-hing will happen with them." She may have to wait a bit longer, as Timberlake kicks off a two-month European tour April 24. But for now, adds the source, "they seem to be very happt."

Horoscope

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Musicians' collaboration forges friendship

Singer-songwriters visit campus to kick off Little Kentucky Derby Festival

By Chris Weis



"Any artist I enjoy, I'm always inter-ested in seeing how they're like," Barnes said.

One thing he isn't, Barnes said, is the

One thing he isn't, Barnes said, is the

are pretty spontaneous."

Barne's admitted to the "ticking time bomb" nature of performing together sporadically.

Barnes admitted to the "ticking time bomb" nature of performing together sportadically.

"We've played some of these songs 500 times, and I don't want to be the one who messes one of them up," he said.

Both artists spoke complimentarily about the other as a musician and a friend.

"Um truly inspired and challenged by (Barnes') songs." Barnes said. "He's an awesome dude."

"I'm truly inspired and challenged by (Barnes') songwriting. He's raised the bar for what I want to do with my song-writing," Wertz said. "It's a real treat to join forces again."

Tonight the show starts with pop-rock pianist Jon McLaughlin, whose debut record, "Indiana." is scheduled for release in May.

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 dollars for non-students. All tickets will be \$10 at the door.

As part of Little Kentucky Derby, a Ping Pong Ball Drop will take place at noon today where 1,000 ping pong balls will drop from the Patterson Office Tow-er. Five of these balls will be green and the students who pick those up will win free tickets to the concert, Rupp said.





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VIGIL

Continued from page 1

Enter fellow students.

"In here not Tech, but also all off the students or enter of the page of

BRENT

situation I don't think I could handle."

He and Brent often played video games like Madden NFL and Tiger Woods PGA Tour. Brent used an Xbox controller that he could hook up to his mouth, as he couldn't use his hands.

If someone wanted to find Brent at UK, he was usually "baking like a lizard" outside of New North Hall on sunny days, and it wasn't uncommon fear orwol of students to be around him, said Bets; Fisher, or the sunders of the sun of th

DIVERSITY

and job placement should be based on merit and need, not on racial or gender mi-

merit and need, not on racial or gender minority.

We need to give people who need the
money the money," said Justin Gaddis,
psychology junior.

"I am against discrimination in every
aspect of it," Gaddis said. "Affirmative action...-perpetuates racism."

Steve Voss, a political science professor who teaches a course on race and polities, said all of his experiences with affirmative action have been negative.

As editor in chief of his college newspaper, Voss said he watched several reporters of racial minority have no trouble
finding internships, while more experienced white writers scrambled to find
work.

Some panelists said many of those

work.

Some panelists said many of those who receive benefits from affirmative action were the most qualified applicants for the job, regardless.

"We assume money or admission letters are going to someone who isn't qualified, but I am qualified, I am an honer student, I am on the Dean's List," Thompson said.

said. "Affirmative action might get you into school, but it doesn't pass your tests for you," said william D. Wharnon, executive director of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Human Rights Commission. Thompson said she hopes students who attended the discussion went away with more awareness about the issue.

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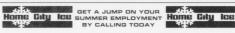


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Tailback making strides

the UK football team, running the 40-yard-dash in 4.2 seconds.

But when he first arrived at UK, his speed and tendency to run outside didn't impress his teammates and only raised questions about his toughness.

"Actually, everybody was asking if I was a running back or a wide receiver, because I was taller and lighter," Smith said. "Everybody was pretty tough on me. But I kept working hard, and all the guys kept tough on me. But I kept working hard, and all the guys kept telling me to keep trying." Smith said more complete back. UK offensive coordinator loker Phillips and honing his skills to become a more complete back. UK offensive coordinator loker Phillips and honing his skills to become a more complete back. UK offensive coordinator loker Phillips and honing to show in practice.

"In the open field he is now starting to try and make people miss, and when the tackler is coming up to make the tackle is delivering the blow and not taking the blow." Phillips add at the end of Saturday's intra-squad scrimmage.

Smith seems poised to be a viable offensive threat for the Cats, coaches said.

As a redshirt freshman, Smith saw limited action backing up junior Rafael Little and sophomore Tony Dixon.

"We've got to get Alfonso in the game, there's no doubt

Smith put on weight, honed skills during offseason to impress coaches in spring

By Matthew George mgeorge@kykrenct.com

At 6-foot-1 and 190pounds, UK tailback Alfonso Smith is the fastest player on the UK footbal team, running the 40-yard-dash in 4.2 seconds.

But when he first arrived at UK, his speed and tendency to run outside didn't impress his teammates and only raised questions about his toughness.

Which is the fastest player on the UK footbal team, running the 40-yard-dash in 4.2 seconds.

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Which is the fastest player on the UK footbal team, running the 40-yard-dash in 4.2 seconds.

Which is the fastest player on the List brown when injuries limited Little and Dixon's play ability last season and was panded the Most Outstanding First-Year Offensive Player by UK conches. The Louvisile native rushed for 250 yards and a touchdown sagainst the Bull-down against the Bull-d

ical runner finishing runs,"
Phillips said. "The thing he has
to do better is when it's third
and short and there is not a
hole. He has to learn to create

ready ran a couple people over."

Phillips said he has also seen insprovement in Smith's ability to catch the football out of the backfield, an area where Smith's speed can impact the game.

"When we can get a guy like him out in the open field yale out in the grass catching the ball, that is where he can be huge in our offense." Phillips.

Smith chose UK over football powers Louisville and Boston College. He said he felt the program was heading in the right direction and that he could have an immediate impact on the team.

"I want to make some history here," Smith said.

Last season, the Cats went 8-5 and upset Clemson 28-20 to win the Music City Boul. Smith feels that UK has the potential to be even better this year.

"I think we can be the

year.
"I think we can be the Arkansas of last year and upset a lot of teams," Smith said.
"Everybody is back, so I think we have a real road chouse the



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Baseball searches for ways to end slump

Tailback Alfonso Smith rushes the ball during UK's 45-36 win against Central Michigan on Sept. 30. UK coaches say Smith is one of the most improved players in the 2007 spring season.

elindssydkykarneli.com

John Cohen is doing everything he can to shake his team into a dynamic force and out of the downward spiral that has happened of late.

In the last two weeks, the head baseball coach has made several lineup changes, hoping his team will overcome a struggling stretch during which the Cats have lost seven of their last ten games.

"I think he's just trying anything he can to get that spark going again," said junior Sawyer Carroll. "He's trying to find some combination to get us going again because it's clear we have the talent. We've just hit a bump in the road lately."

Carroll, a transfer from Seminole State Junior College, is one of the many moves Cohen has made recently. On Saturday against No. I Vanderbilit, Cohen moved Carroll from his nader recently on Saturday against No. I vanderbilit, Cohen moved Carroll from his natural position at first base to right field, his first career start in the outfield as a Wildeat.



ELUOTHESS | Sunior infielder Sawyer Carroll high fives a teammate during the win over UT-Martin on March 9 arroll's position has been shuffled recently as part of head coach John Cohen's roster mix-up, hich is meant to help improve the team's performance.

infoll from his natural position at first bases or right field, his first career start in the outfield as a Wildcat.

"Sawyer has had a tough time defensively at first base recently," Cohen said. "It withink for us to get the offense we needed out of him, we needed to alleviate the pressure he was feeling at first base."

Cohen pointed to a three-error performance on April 7 against Frenessee, but said he still wants to keep Carroll in the plate and opened up playing time for senior infielder Matt McKinney.

Carroll, who leads the team with 16 doubles, says he isn't opposed to playing in the outfield because he played it occasional, by in junior college.

"I on't care where they put me," Carroll said. "As long as I get to hit and I'm in "Our concerns with him being a fresh-"









Like DeMoss, new coach must be a rebuilder

As the head women's basketball coach for four years, Mickie DeMoss led the team to the first series of three-straight postseason appearances in school history and its first-ever win over a top-ranked team. Her name brought excitement to the program, but it was her coaching that brought prestige.

The reaction to DeMoss' departure may have been quiet compared to Tubby Smith's. But Smith spent a decade in Lexington and won a national championship. While that certainly could be considered reason for the Smith's-gone, Bring-in-Donovan, We-Love-

KERNEL EDITORIAL

Coach-G hoopla, DeMoss was well on her way to a similar era-defining tenure. When she inherited the program four years ago, it was coming off a losing season and hadn't been to the NCAA Tournament in four years. Three seasons later, she was the SEC Coach of the Year – UK's first.

DeMoss started the process of creating a mationally recognized program — despite this year's 24-14, NIT-appearance letdown — and

the program's success under DeMoss' guidance should not be stunted by her exit. The DeMossian rebuilding project deserves a successor of equal coaching caliber, recruit-ing ability and excitement-generating capabili-

the program's success under DeMoss' guidance should not be stunted by her exit.

The DeMossian rebuilding project deserves a successor of equal coaching caliber, recruing a bility and excitement-generating capability.

When she first arrived, Memorial Coliseum hosted an average of 1,694 fans a game. This season, her Cats drew 3,683 per game. That fan base is yet another aspect of the program that shouldn't lose momentum. The fans should be as encouraged and satisfied with the new face-to-be of women's hoops as the players and

The U.S. must end the war in Iraq as soon as possible



The first thing I want to do in this column is to acknowledge the monumental loss at Virginia Tech. The horror experienced there must have been awful, something that truly cannot be put into words. I can only say that we in the College Democrats and at

ROBERT
KANNE
Kernel
columnist

prayers, and we hope that we can
turn this terrible event into positive energy, used for something
good.

turn tins terrible event into positive energy, used for something
good.

That being said, this column
will be about Iraq, A little more
han four years ago, on March 19,
2003, President George W. Bush
launched the invasion of Iraq, the
rationale for which was that Saddad Hussein was hoarding
weapons of mass destruction there.
On May 1, 2003, President Bush,
aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln,
declared "Mission Accomplished."
We had not found any weapons of
mass destruction, and at that point,
most of Iraq was still in chaos.
On December 14, 2003, we
discovered Saddam Hussein hiding
in a hole in the ground. He was
arrested, and about three years later, he was executed by Shia Muslims on the day before Eid alAdha, the Suni holiday of sacrifice. This served to fuel the already out-of-control sectional unrest in Iraq. At the time of Hussein's death, we still had not
found any weapons of mass destruction. Indeed, to this day, we
have not found WMDs. We gave
up looking for them in January
2005.

In this war, 3,300 Americans

have not found WMDs. We gave up looking for them in January 2005.

In this war, 3,300 Americans have lost their lives. American taxpayers have spent hundreds of billions of dollars. For what?

When we invaded Iraq, it was to protect us from weapons of mass destruction. When it was discovered that such weapons didn't exist, our rationale shifted to "bring freedom to Iraq."

ist, our rationale shifted to "bring freedom to Iraq." But Iraqis today live in as much fear as they did before the invasion. The minimum estimate for civilian deaths in Iraq is more than 61,000. That is more than 15,000 deaths per year due to the war. Is this what freedom looks



like to you? Iraqis have little faith in their new democratic system to solve problems, as most of their elected officials have been inept at stopping the violence and terror that they live in every day.

This was has been a debacle on every level. First, our rationale was wrong. This was is completely unjustified, and it is the fundamental problem.

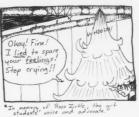
Second, our execution of this was been unable to perform even the smallest tasks effectively. From the largest cities to the smallest towns, all places in Iraq are insecure. Our administration has not been unable to perform even the smallest tasks effectively. From the largest cities to the smallest towns, all places in Iraq are insecure. Our administration has not been considered to the smallest towns, all places in Iraq are insecure. Our administration has not been considered to the smallest towns, all places in Iraq are insecure. Our administration and places in Iraq are insecured to the smallest towns and the smallest towns, all places in Iraq are insecured to the smallest towns, and places in Iraq are insecured to the smallest towns, and the smallest towns are insecured to the world. The international community realized long before the American public that this war was a terrible idea and has been opposed to our policy since it began. The damage toward our image as a country may be irreparable.

To this point, this has been a pretty depressing subject. By my estimation, the United States military can do nothing more in Iraq, especially under the current administration. Even with a radical shift in policy, I think we could do very little, since we have lost alministration. Even with a radical shift in policy, I think we could do very little, since we have lost alministration. Even with a radical shift in policy, I think we could the unto help us fix our mess. If we don't, things will only get worse, and we will only do more affect to the United States, and our own image.

Robert &Athen is a political secure and economics sophomore.

"Reynolds #1" Gladys Nickles erous





GLADYS NICKLES, Kernel cartoonist

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

As workload and stress increase, don't forget counseling services

don't forget counseling services

As a graduate student in the College of Social Work's mental health concentration. I see every day how important quality mental health services really are. As finals approach, I would like to remind everyone that there is help available to cope with the stress.

Even students without health insurance or those whose health insurance does not cover mental health services — many health insurance companies do so poorly or not at all — can avail themselves of services while enrolled at UK. At the UK Counseling and Testing Center, all counseling services are offered to fee-paying students who are enrolled for at least six credit hours. This applies to undergraduate and graduate students.

It seems that many students are not aware of this service, and it is important. Until mental health is taken as services helps to fill the gap.

I wish all people in Kentucky had the benefits that students have — but that's for another discussion. For now, stressed-out students should know that help is out there.

Charlinda Turner Brashear

saves a woman in John 8: 7-11:

"If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her". until only Jesus was left. Jesus straightened up and asked her, Woman, where are they? Has no one condemmed you? 'No one, sir,' she said. 'Then neither do I condemn you,' Jesus declared."
He covered over the old law from Deuteronomy 22 that Flanary quoted. The New Testament also shows Jesus healing on the Sabbath and relv-king officials who question it. In John 12: 47, Jesus says, 'For I did not come to judge the world, but to save it.' His message is one of love, not condemnation. Therefore, voices of condemnation are not coming from Christ, but merely people missing the point of God's message.

People put faith in the Bible because it's Godbreathed. That doesn't mean people don't interpret Scripture incorrectly and use it to send messages of judgment and fear instead of the intended messages of love and forgiveness. It seems that the letter-writer and the campus preacher have made the same crucial mistake — taking Scripture out of context and twisting it to send the message they desired, looking for confirmation of already-held beliefs.

Although the Scriptures that Flanary cited are certainly relevant. Jesus came to make a new law based on loving God and loving other people. Any other interpretation is simply missing the mark.

Submissions

E-mail opinions@kykernel.com

Weekly Poll Question

Should UK spend \$100 per clock to replace each of the 1,000 clocks

Vote online and view previous poll results at www.kykernel.com

Cartoonists Needed

The Kernel is looking for a cartoonist to draw pieces for the Opinions page on a regular basis. Those who have an interes in campus and local issues will be given special attention, altho cartoonists of all interests will be considered.

E-mail bkenkel@kykernel.com

To prevent further violence, allow students to arm themselves

The situation at Virginia Tech on Monday was a very sad ordeal. However, the whole thing had me pondering a

sad ordeal. However, the whole thing had me pondering a few questions.

How come the shooter didn't obey the "no guns" university policy? That's why it is there, right? You know, criminals obey the law by definition.

What if the student body were armed? There is no pleading with a nutcase — the only negotiation that can be had is that of a bullet to his cranium.

Call it morbid, but I call it self-preservation. As sad as it was to see concealed carry prohibited last year at Virginia Tech, it is sadder yet to see more than 30 people killed. I take comfort in knowing that I can carry a concealed firearm to my classes without breaking the law there in Kentucky, Be aware that you can still be expelled, but I'd rather be out tuition than my life.

Don't misinterpret the Bible when speaking about Christianity

SPEAKING ADOUT CHRISTIANITY
This is in response to John Flanary's April 12 letter regarding the "All homos go to hell" message. I feel comfortable saying the author probably has little knowledge of the New Testament and of Jesus. The Bible says that we have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, which puts all men on an equal footing, unable to judge one another because we all mess up the perfect intentions of our Maker. This should also mean that we are all sentenced to hell.

However, the beauty of Christianity is that we have a Savior who brings mercy and forgiveness — who came to teach us what is really right. In the New Testament, Jesus

Duke players' exoneration should get as much press as accusations

get as much press as accusations

There's no love lost on Duke around here. But after the recent exoneration of their lacrosse players, I think it is time to make a gesture of apology to these unjustly vilified students. The media in particular needs to step up and take some responsibility for the damage done to the players' reputations.

While the overzealous district attorney, Mike Nifong, has been revealed as the true villain in this situation—his pursuit was completely unjustified and his charges baseless—the damage done to the lives of these players is primarily due to the overzealous coverage in national media outlets. It should be made a specific goal to give as much coverage to their exoneration as was given to their indictments, to help clear the cloud of shame and disrepute that has befallen them and sullied their names.

Let's make sure that it is broadcast loud and printed clear: David Byrans, Reade Seligmann and Collin Finnerty are not only not guilty but completely innocent of any of the charges brought against them. I am, personally, sorry for any judgments I might have passed on them based on the scant information available to me.

They were unjustly thrust onto a national stage with allegations of a sexual, racial and violent nature against their characters and could only find legal reprieve because they had the personal wealth and resources to defend themselves. There is still damage to their reputations and to their personal lives that cannot be completed unden. Amends must be made — and what better place to start the healing than right here in Lexington, the last place anyone would expect to find some love given to Duke?

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